

Vol. 60, No. 39

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

Sept. 28, 2001

Air Force implements stop-loss measures

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The secretary of defense has authorized the use of stop-loss measures in order to support President Bush's campaign against terrorism, Air Force officials at the Pentagon said Sept. 20.

The decision, which gives service departments the authority to retain members beyond established dates of separation or retirement, was made by Donald H. Rumsfeld on Sept. 19, said Lt. Col. Jan Middleton, chief of promotion, evaluation and separation policy for the Air Force.

"The purpose of this action is

to meet mission requirements in support of Operation Noble Eagle and any follow-on operations regarding the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the nation," she said.

Those attacks, in which hijackers flew airliners into New York's World Trade Centers, in addition to the Pentagon, killed thousands of Americans and sent shockwaves throughout the world. In a Sept. 20 address to Congress, President Bush responded to the attacks by essentially declaring war on the world's network of terrorism.

As a result, as many as 50,000 reservists — including people in each branch of service — have been called to active duty in recent days. Title 10 of U.S. Code permits the president to enact stop-loss measures when such a call-up takes place, Colonel Middleton said.

"Title 10 permits the president to suspend any provision of law relating to promotions, retirements and separations during any period when members of any reserve component are on active duty under involuntary mobilization authorities," she said.

Colonel Middleton said that the Air Force will employ a "total force approach" to capitalize on the unique composition of each force element, including active-duty members, Guard and Reserve.

Capt. Amy Anderson, chief of retirement and separation policy for the Air Force, said the key will be to ensure the service retains the critical skills needed for mission requirements. At least for the short-term future, the policy will affect all bluesuiters.

"The initial stop-loss period for all Air Force specialties will be for at least 30 days," she said.

"All retirement, separation or component transfer actions will be suspended until termination of stop-loss, unless an exemption is applicable or waiver is granted. This (Air Force specialty code) list will be revised and made available to the public as requirements are validated."

A few exceptions will apply, Captain Anderson said.

"This suspension does not apply to the mandatory separation or retirement of personnel because of disabilities or hardships," she said. "But, officers

●SEE STOP-LOSS PAGE 5

F-22 Raptor completes combat-capability milestone

LEIGH ANNE BIERSTINE

Air Force Flight Test Center public affairs

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFPN) — The F-22 Combined Test Force at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. completed another major program milestone Sept. 21.

Air Force test pilot Maj. Brian Ernisse launched a guided AIM-120 advanced-medium-range air-to-air missile and successfully scored a lethal "hit" on an unmanned target aircraft. The missile flew within lethal range of the target and, from preliminary data analysis, was assessed a kill. The test, using Raptor 4005, proves the aircraft's avionics suite can track and destroy a target, officials said.

The integrated avionics and situational awareness the system provides to the pilot is one of four key attributes that makes the F-22 Raptor better than any fighter in the world for the foreseeable future, said F-22 combined test director, Col. Chris Seat. The fighter's other attributes are stealth, super cruise and agility.

"This first guided-missile launch shows that the avionics sys-

●SEE RAPTOR PAGE 7



Judson Brohmer

An AIM-9 Sidewinder missile begins its early separation from an F-22 Raptor. The major milestone test evaluated the next-generation fighter's ability to fire an air-to-air missile from an internal weapons bay.

Checkertail Clan answers nation's call

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM F. HODGKINS

325th Fighter Wing commander



The tragic events that transpired Sept. 11 were a direct attack on America and the values and freedoms each of us holds so dear. In times of crisis, America has a history of turning to its military. It will do so again as we wage a war on terrorism.

I'm proud to hear that in our nation's time of need, the "Checkertail Clan" has answered the call. I applaud those of you working long hours and sacrificing time away from family and personal endeavors to take care of the needs of the Air Force and our country. I know people have been working around the clock, applying their talents, and in many instances assisting 1st Air Force, CONR and SEADS in accomplishing their mission. Your dedication and selflessness is inspiring.



"In times of crisis, America has a history of turning to its military. It will do so again as we wage a war on terrorism."

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM F. HODGKINS

325th Fighter Wing commander

A very real concern is that people may be neglecting themselves and their families and pushing too hard. That can take a toll. Your health and welfare are important to the 325th Fighter Wing, senior leadership and me.

Therefore, I encourage supervisors to watch for signs of burnout and provide troops with the needed rest to conduct a sustained operation. If people are taking daily frustration out at home, or taking it out on people at work, then it's time to step back from the situation and

reevaluate.

Base services are ready to assist in taking care of my number one priority...the men and women of the 325th Fighter Wing. Commanders, first sergeants and supervisors need to be alert and recognize when their troops are getting tired and continue to check on their needs. If people are having problems, the chaplain staff is always prepared to help those in need.

●SEE PRIORITY PAGE 3

Action Line

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

Action Line calls are recorded and staffed through the proper agency. The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers. If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the office of inspections, 283-4646. Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM F. HODGKINS
325th Fighter Wing commander

Honor after terrorism: service takes on new meaning

2ND LT. THOMAS OZIEMBLOWSKY

325th Services readiness and honor guard officer in charge

I was born in 1976 after the Vietnam War ended, and I grew up in a different era than my parents and grandparents. My childhood was filled with parental love, and my teen-age years were spent carelessly playing sports and dating girls. I was securely wrapped in the safe blanket of peacetime America. I also truly believed it could never be removed. Yet, to my astonishment, it was abruptly jerked away by the terrorist attacks on our nation Sept. 11.

I was horrified as I watched televised images of the attacks play out on the national media. It shocked me to realize our country, seemingly impregnable to its enemies, was vulnerable to fanatical zealots armed with box cutters and hatred. I felt outraged that someone could so violently assault innocent Americans. I was even more upset as a very proud member of America's armed forces that I could not have somehow prevented the events in

the downtown streets of lower Manhattan and the Pentagon. The peaceful and secure existence I had known in my childhood crumbled along with the World Trade Center towers that day.

For me, the attacks galvanized my belief in my nation and united me with my generation of Americans. Never before had I been so moved by "God Bless America" or "My Country 'tis of Thee." These anthems reached down to touch the bottom of my heart. I attended church the Sunday following the attack and the American flag, a symbol of the new national unity sweeping through America, was paraded proudly down the center aisle during the opening and closing hymns. I could not help it. I cried for the innocence lost in my nation, for the trials I knew Generation X would now face. I wept for my nation amid my fellow Americans without shame.

I knew the day I left my hometown in the industrial heartland of America near Pittsburgh to join the United States Air Force, I would some day be called to defend our nation. I had resolutely squared my shoulders as I

took the oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic." It was the proudest day of my life, marking my beginning of service to the American freedoms we all cherish. It was a firm commitment to something much bigger than myself. It was the natural extension of my love for America.

After the attacks, I finally realized the world I had known the day I was commissioned as an officer in the Air Force had forever changed, not only for me, but also for an entire generation of Americans. For those serving our country in uniform, it meant that some of us would travel to foreign lands to uphold our constitutional freedoms. Still for others in uniform, it marked the beginning of various supporting roles we would play for our deployed forces. I concluded that all are equally important in the defense of our nation. This is the true reason we wear our uniforms. For my generation, it was the end of an era of innocence and the start of our defining mo-

●SEE HONOR PAGE 4

Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. William F. Hodgkins 325th FW commander
Capt. Chris Karns 325th FW public affairs chief
Staff Sgt. Roel Utley chief, internal information
Catherine Layton editor
2nd Lt. Serena Custis staff reporter
Senior Airman Russell Crowe staff reporter
Teresa Nooney News Herald staffer
e-mail editor@tyndall.af.mil

The *Gulf Defender* is published by the *Panama City News Herald*, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Gulf Defender* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or the *Panama City News Herald* of the products or services advertised.

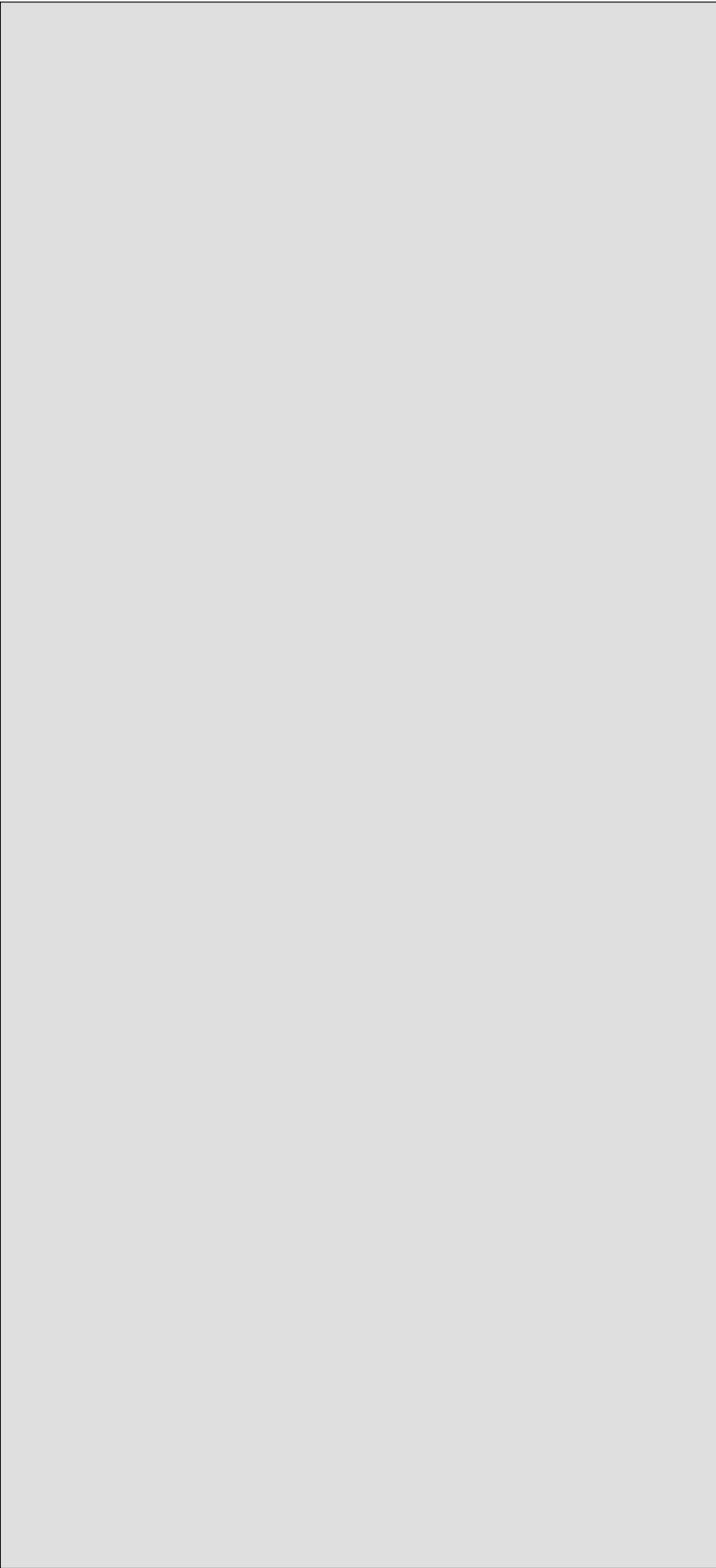
Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of

the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office at Tyndall. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.



●FROM PRIORITY PAGE 2

During this time of national turmoil my expectations for the 325th Fighter Wing are as follows:

Take care of yourselves and your people.

Continue to exhibit the highest degree of professionalism. During stressful times, lack of sleep and long hours can result in short fuses and on-the-job mistakes. Team Tyndall is known for its professionalism and we need to continue to set the example for others to follow.

Remain vigilant. Situational awareness must remain at the highest levels. Look out for one another. Report any suspicious activities to the office of special investigations or security forces.

Don't discuss classified information with individuals who don't have a need to know. This information is classified for a reason and compromises will not be tolerated.

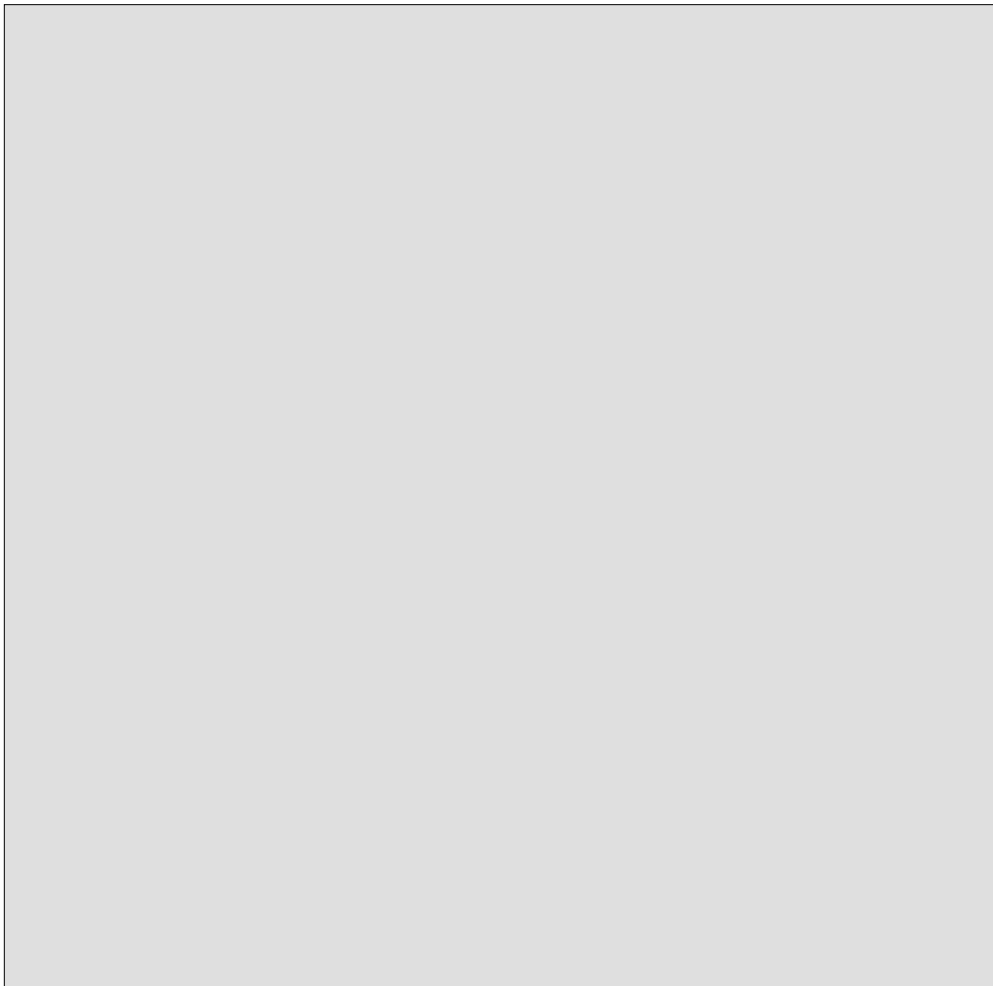
Comply with the heightened base security measures. The force-protection conditions are in response to real-world events, and I expect everyone's full cooperation. Security is of utmost concern across the Department of Defense and we need to cooperate with

security forces to keep Tyndall safe.

Gen. Hal Hornburg, the commander of Air Education and Training Command, put out guidance concerning zero tolerance toward discrimination, in particular as it applies to Arab-Americans and those of Islamic faith. Bottom line, discrimination of any kind has no place in our Air Force. If you witness any type of discrimination, confront the person creating the hostile situation. If you don't feel comfortable confronting the individual, report it to your supervisor. I will not tolerate any type of discrimination. People will be held accountable for their actions, both on and off-duty.

Finally, for those people who want to donate funds and assist survivors of the Sept. 11 Pentagon attack, the DOD has provided a recommended list of organizations. They include:

- Air Force Aid Society, Sept. 11th Attack on America Fund, 703-607-3073
- Army Emergency Relief Society, Pentagon Victims Fund, (703) 325-0463
- Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, Pentagon Assistance Fund, (703) 696-4904
- Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund, (303) 933-7580



The strength of American people lies in diversity, pride

THOMAS E. CHATMAN
Equal Employment Opportunity program director

In the aftermath of the American tragedy, we as a diverse people of the United States must join together in mourning and reflection. It is also clear that there is a potential for backlash against people of Middle Eastern descent. As our nation recovers from the terrible events of Sept. 11, the ability to stand united in the face of adversity must remain our nation's greatest strength.

Fighting unlawful and irrational discrimination is our job, it is the American people's work. We sometimes forget that the American family consists of many diverse individuals representing many different countries, religions and ethnicities, as well as points of view. As

good steadfast Americans, we must fight racism against Muslims and persons of Middle Eastern descent, both inside and outside our fences.

Spreading divisive messages of intolerance is wrong, and America can ill-afford any further loss of unity as we come together to heal our great nation. Much will remain uncertain in the coming days, but one thing will remain constant, America will mourn her dead, tend to her living and take care of the business of holding those responsible for the carnage, accountable. As Americans we must become a unified body in unconditional support of the president. Christian, Muslim, Jewish and Sikh faiths must become one and comfort a grief-stricken nation. We do not live in America, America lives in us.

Tyndall's chapel schedule

Catholic

Daily Mass: 11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, Chapel 2
Reconciliation: After Saturday Mass or by appointment
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday, Chapel 2
Mass: 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Chapel 2
Religious education: 11 a.m. Sunday

Protestant

Communion Service: 9:30 a.m., Chapel 1
General Protestant Service: 11 a.m., Chapel 2
Chapel 1: 283-2691
Chapel 2: 283-2925
Other faith groups: Call 283-2925

Support each other through prayer, respect

ELIZABETH SMITH
Protestant parish coordinator

In the wake of recent events, we as a nation have come together to display the strength of our faith, our resolve, our support for one another and our resilience.

Unfortunately, we have also shown our anger and our fear. There have been attacks on mosques, temples and other gathering places. Our fellow citizens, people of faith, are afraid to attend worship services or openly practice their traditions. Once again, the reprehensible acts of extremists cause a ripple effect throughout society, felt most painfully in our communities and neighborhoods.

How often have we, the military, been sent to foreign soil to prevent, protect, defend, put a stop to and—worst of all—clean up after such events as these?

To tolerate such behavior on the same soil that has been soaked with the blood of those who fought, died and built a nation on a foundation of freedom and—particularly—religious tolerance is unthinkable.

As members of Team Tyndall, we represent the best of our founding principles: people of faith, living and working together for the betterment of all. We have taken an oath to defend those principles with our lives, if necessary. The president has called upon us to be ready. We're ready; we're willing. We'll do it right... representing one nation under God.

Now, more than ever, it is important that we keep the lines of communication open, respect each other and display our support. Your Tyndall chaplains and staff invite you to a time of prayer and fellowship. On Oct. 5, we will offer simultaneous morning prayer at 7 a.m. Those on the flightline side will find us at spiritual maintenance, Building 532. On the support side, we will be at Chapel 2.

●FROM HONOR PAGE 2

ment on the world stage. We would now have to keep America free from its enemies.

I have unfaltering faith that our nation will prevail in the face of these terrible attacks. I know that "service before self" applies not only to me but also to my Generation X. We

need to keep the American flag flying high. I am willing to pay any sacrifice for my country, it is the reason I put on my uniform this morning. I realize we are now being called as Americans to make sacrifices unlike any we have made before. We are now shocked out of our own personal comfort zones as

a nation. But my grandparents did it in World War II and my parents did it in Vietnam. I too will willingly follow in their footsteps. I am very honored to be serving with you in the finest military force the world has ever known. I am ready to go where my country needs me. My bags are packed.

TRICARE is here to help. If you need assistance, call your TRICARE service center, 286-1000.



●FROM STOP-LOSS

PAGE 1

being separated due to nonselection to captain, major or lieutenant colonel will not be exempted."

The captain added that separating or retiring members who, as of Saturday, had an approved effective date on or before Monday, or who had made arrangements to ship household goods on or before Monday, are exempt from stop-loss. In addition, those people serving an overseas unaccompanied assignment where the tour length is 15 months or less, and who will retire or separate upon tour completion, are

also exempt.

"Stop-loss is necessary for senior Air Force leadership to determine which career fields are absolutely necessary to respond to the current threat," said Capt. Marc Kelly, military personnel flight commander. "Leaders are still developing the nature and scope of our response. Until we know that, senior leadership is going to have to hold everyone."

Personnel officials said military personnel flights around the Air Force have additional information regarding stop-loss implementation. For local information, contact 1st Lt. Ricardo Garcia, 283-2017.

Secretary, chief of staff: A higher calling awaits

MASTER SGT. RICK BURNHAM

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — When he took the reins of the U.S. Air Force on Sept. 6, Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper hardly could have imagined what the future would hold. That a ruthless band of terrorists would attack in less than a week ... that he and his wife, Ellen, would attend a stirring presidential address to the Congress, preparing the nation for war on terrorists everywhere ... that the Air Force would likely play a key role in that war.

Yet, those were the realities as the new chief of staff spoke before a group of more than 200 Air Staff officers, enlisted members and civilians Sept. 21 at the Pentagon. Dr. James Roche, secretary of the Air Force, introduced the general, formerly commander of Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

"The events of last week opened up a period for us in the Air Force where we have to adapt what we do well to the circumstances and threats we face," said the secretary. "I can tell you that we are blessed that we have a terrific team, and a terrific uniformed leader in John Jumper, to get the job done. I have the greatest confidence in him, and I think, together with you, he will serve our country very well in the years to come."

Following his introduction by the secretary, General Jumper spoke of the events of the week before, saying that the world changed for everyone on Sept. 11.

"Once again, airmen stepped forward and responded that day in a heroic way,"



Tech. Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper spoke to a group of Air Staff officers, enlisted members and civilians gathered in the Pentagon auditorium Sept. 21.

he said. "We're in a different mode. The president said it better than anyone else could — we are going to march forward in a very determined way."

The U.S. Air Force, he added, is ready for the challenge.

"We were on a transformational path already," he said. "In 1997, General Ryan said we're going to take this AEF idea and make it work for the whole Air Force. So we've been in this period of transition for an extended period of time, and in doing so we've made ourselves ready for the events that confront us today."

It helps, he added, that the entire country is now once again behind the U.S. armed

●SEE CALLING PAGE 6

There's only one way to come out ahead of the pack.

QUIT

 American Heart Association
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE

●FROM CALLING PAGE 5

forces, with a single objective in mind: eradicate terrorism and the people and organizations who generate it. Sitting with the Joint Chiefs of Staff during President Bush's Sept. 20 address to Congress, he saw firsthand the solidarity behind this most important cause.

"If there is any one place where you can feel the power of the nation at work, it's in that body," he said. "And what you saw was a very diverse group of people come together behind the president."

The president's speech, he said, was extremely effective, for a very simple reason.

"His heart is in this," General Jumper said. "You get the feeling there is a passion involved in this ... there is nothing clinical about it. Of course, we're used to that. We do business on that basis all the time, or we would not be wearing the blue suit. But the nation has it now. You get this profound sense that we have just crossed this very difficult bridge ... civilians are now as much a target as people in uniform. It's frightening, but it's also galvanizing."

"The whole nation is looking at us in uniform to do the nation's business. Is there any higher calling than that? I don't think so."

Then, turning to Secretary Roche, "Mr. Secretary, I am proud to be a part of this team. We have before us today the greatest Air Force in the world. And we are soon going to be able to demonstrate that fact once again. We will soon have to go into harm's way once again, and the men and women of the U.S. Air Force are going to make it happen. It is going to be magnificent, because we're going to do it standing side-by-side."

Down the road, the general said, today's airmen are going to look back at this time with pride.

"The things you tend to look back on are the things most important to you," he said. "I can't remember every year I got a pay raise, but I remember the 11th of September and I'll remember the events ahead of us today."

Thrift Savings Plan available to servicemembers beginning Oct. 9

STAFF SGT. MATT MILLER
Air Force Personnel Center public affairs

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER — Beginning Oct. 9, airmen who may have joined the service for education, training, travel or patriotism will also have the opportunity to amass a retirement nest egg of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The Uniform Services Thrift Savings Plan, which opens for the first time to military members Oct. 9, is the vehicle for the potential financial windfall. This retirement savings and investment plan, initially established in 1986, is similar to a 401(k) plan in the private sector, according to Lt. Col. David Zeh, chief of the field operations branch at Randolph, Air Force Base.

"This is an outstanding benefit that the Department of Defense and Congress worked to make available to the military," said Maj. Gen. Michael McMahan, Air Force Personnel Center commander.

"The program gives members a flexible financial opportunity that could help with their financial peace of mind during the retirement years."

The TSP allows members to contribute a percentage of their monthly pay toward one of five different investment funds, said Colonel Zeh. People can contribute up to seven percent of their pay initially which can be increased up to 10 percent by 2005. And it's totally separate from, and in addition to, the member's regular military retirement plan.

Members who enroll in the TSP will also gain a tax advantage for doing so, said Colonel Zeh. This benefit comes via the monthly allocation being taken straight from

the member's gross income.

"Not only is the money going into TSP not being taxed, but the member's taxable income is less," he said, "any way you look at it, it means more for you."

Even though members will be able to take out loans against what they've accrued, they should not use their TSP as readily available cash.

"TSP is a long-term savings plan, with financial security during retirement as a benefit of the program," said Colonel Zeh. "Those who think they may need their money in the near future, or who don't have money saved for emergencies, might want to consider their needs before enrolling in TSP."

People signing up during this

●SEE THRIFTY PAGE 7



Officials ban uniforms on commercial flights

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Air Force people are no longer authorized to wear their uniforms when traveling aboard commercial aircraft, Air Force officials said.

The uniform prohibition, approved by Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, Sept. 21, is directly related to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and the Pentagon.

“The bottom line is force protection,” said Lt. Col. Bruce Lovely, chief of Air Force quality of life and uniform activities. “Due to our concern for force protection, we want to make our folks less visible on commercial aircraft.”

The policy ends the June 2000 recommendation that colonels and above, and chief master sergeants wear their uniforms when traveling on official orders within the United States.

●**FROM THRIFTY PAGE 6**

Oct. 9 - Jan. 31 initial “open season” — the initial period where people can enroll in the TSP program — will begin to see the money deducted from their paychecks and deposited into the plan as soon as January. Members will be able to designate where their money goes after their first contributions have been received.

Similar to the civilian TSP program, military members will have the choice of five funds through which their money will be invested.

“The potential is there for someone to increase their retirement reserve with a great deal of flexibility,” said Colonel Zeh.

The benefit can add up to a significant retirement fund. A six-year staff sergeant for instance,

whose annual base salary is \$21,351, could decide to invest seven percent of his monthly income, or \$125 per month. Assuming he gets seven percent return (not even including any future salary increases) after 10 years he will have saved more than \$21,500. After 20 years of investing at this same rate he would save about \$65,000. And after leaving it there for 40 years, he would have more than \$326,000 in his TSP savings.

“Basically, each member needs to devote some time to figuring out their financial status and how TSP can fit into their lifestyle,” said Colonel Zeh. Economic conditions change and it’s up to each person to determine how to invest their money, he said.

People can get help with their fi-

nancial planning by contacting the Tyndall Family Support Center at 283-4204.

“Although the family support center’s financial counselors cannot give advice as to which funds one should invest in, they can give investment-type counseling,” said Colonel Zeh.

Airmen can pick up the enrollment and designation forms at base finance offices, military personnel flights or base family support centers and turn them in to their finance office.

“As with the current civilian system, military members will be able to enroll, disenroll and change their allocations over the Web directly through DFAS in the near future,” said Colonel Zeh. More information is posted on the TSP Web site at www.tsp.gov.uniserve.

●**FROM RAPTOR PAGE 1**

tem is well on the way to supporting the F-22’s ability to find and identify an adversary, shoot before the adversary and obtain the kill,” Colonel Seat said. “We call this ‘first look, first shoot, first kill,’ and this capability will ensure the United States has the overwhelming advantage in any future potential conflicts.

“We hope an adversary’s knowledge of the awesome capabilities of the F-22 would be enough to deter any threatening actions, but if engaged we don’t want a fair fight, we want to win decisively,” Colonel Seat said.

The flight test was per-

“With each flight test we are proving the awesome capabilities of the F-22, and there is no doubt this aircraft will provide the United States military with a huge force protection advantage for decades to come.”

MAJ. BRIAN ERNISSE
U.S. Air Force test pilot

formed over the Pacific Missile Test Range that runs along the southern California coastline, at about 40,000 feet at subsonic airspeed. While specific details of the test profile remain sensitive, the aircraft’s performance continued to exceed the capabilities of all other fighter aircraft in use, officials said.

“With each flight test we are proving the awesome capabilities of the F-

22, and there is no doubt this aircraft will provide the United States military with a huge force protection advantage for decades to come,” Major Ernisse said.

The launch was the final flight-test milestone out of three completed this fiscal year. Earlier milestones demonstrated the F-22’s radar-detection capabilities and the aircraft’s ability to release the AIM-120 and

the AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles at high angles of attack.

The combined test force at Edwards is currently testing five F-22s. Since the start of testing nearly three years ago, the F-22 test program has flown more than 1,375 hours and completed more than 610 flight-test sorties.

Tyndall AFB has been approved as the training wing for the F-22 program. The first Raptors are scheduled to arrive here in February 2003.

The test team at Edwards AFB is focused on continuing envelope expansion and avionics suite verification, as the aircraft’s next flight-test objective.



Members of the 325th Fighter Wing Honor Guard stand at attention as the flag is folded during POW/MIA Day ceremonies Sept. 21 in flag park.



Tech. Sergeants (left to right) Troy Burnett and Elton Plowman and Staff Sgt. Jeremy Smith transport the flag during POW/MIA Day ceremonies.



Col. William Bledsoe, Hutchinson/Poplawski POW/MIA memorial.



Photos by Lisa Carroll



325th Fighter Wing vice commander, and George Hizer, i Chapter of American POWs chairman, pay homage to the

POW/MIA: A TIME TO REMEMBER, APPRECIATE

2ND LT. SERENA CUSTIS
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Sept. 21 marked a time to pay honor and respect to those who sacrificed their personal freedoms to preserve that of a whole nation. More than 300 servicemembers and civilians gathered at Tyndall to take part in a memorial service, a 24-hour warrior run and a formal retreat ceremony during POW/MIA Recognition Day. Fourteen former prisoners of war and their family members were honored that day for their courage and perseverance when America needed them most. They answered the call of duty, even when it meant unending days of dark cells and squalid camps.

In 1984, President Reagan said America would never abandon its efforts to account for those who are missing in action. He said, “We write no last chapters. We close no books. We put away no

final memories.”

That commitment has taken us to faraway lands; lands where the roar and rumble of battle have long since faded. It has taken us to remote graves and crash sites, where dedicated teams search for the smallest clue that might help bring one more American home. Sadly, the recent terrorist attacks have caused us to exercise this commitment in our own homeland. Rescuers and firefighters work tirelessly in New York and at the Pentagon to account for every victim of the terrible tragedy.

The dedication seen at home and abroad reflects America’s commitment to our warriors and to their families, whose pain far exceeds anything we can imagine. America’s fallen heroes did not face the horror of battle for us to turn away from their sacrifice. Our prisoners of war and missing in action did not fight for us to forget ... and we never will.



Retired Col. Andrew Nolte shakes hands with members of the 325th Fighter Wing during a POW/MIA Day ceremony.

Public scam alert related to national terrorist tragedy

COURTESY OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is issuing an alert to warn the citizens of Florida about a new “scam” luring individuals to make a donation to an unknown charity allegedly collecting relief funds for the victims of the Sept. 11 tragedy.

Intelligence information received indicates the callers are identifying themselves as a charitable organization created to provide additional monetary assistance to those affected by the terrorists’ acts in New York City and at the Pentagon. The caller then asks for the victim’s credit card number.

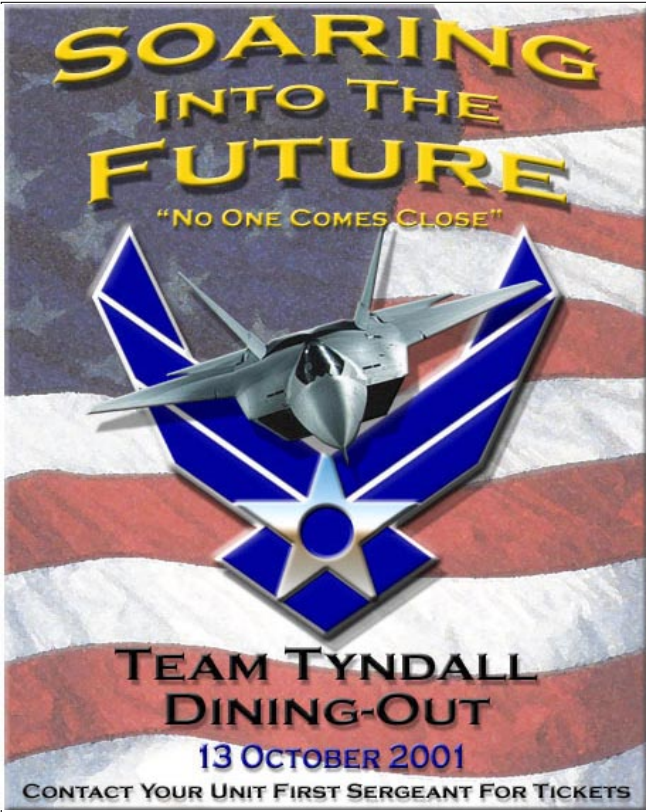
“While we all want to help and lend our assistance, we need to be smart about it. Legitimate charitable solicitors do not conduct telephone solicitations asking for credit card information,” said FDLE Com-

missioner Tim Moore. “This is an unfortunate time for our country. During this time of vulnerability, do not fall prey to these scams.”

To avoid becoming a victim, don’t give your credit card number over the phone and if you choose to make a donation, make the initial contact to the charitable organization.

There are various legitimate charitable organizations currently in place to provide disaster relief. Some of these organizations include your local United Way and American Red Cross.

If you have been a victim of this type of scam, contact the Office of Special Investigation at 283-3261, the Department of Agriculture’s consumer hotline at (800)435-7352 or the Florida Department of Law Enforcement at (800)342-0820. For more information, contact: Al Dennis, public information director, FDLE public information office, (850) 410-7001.

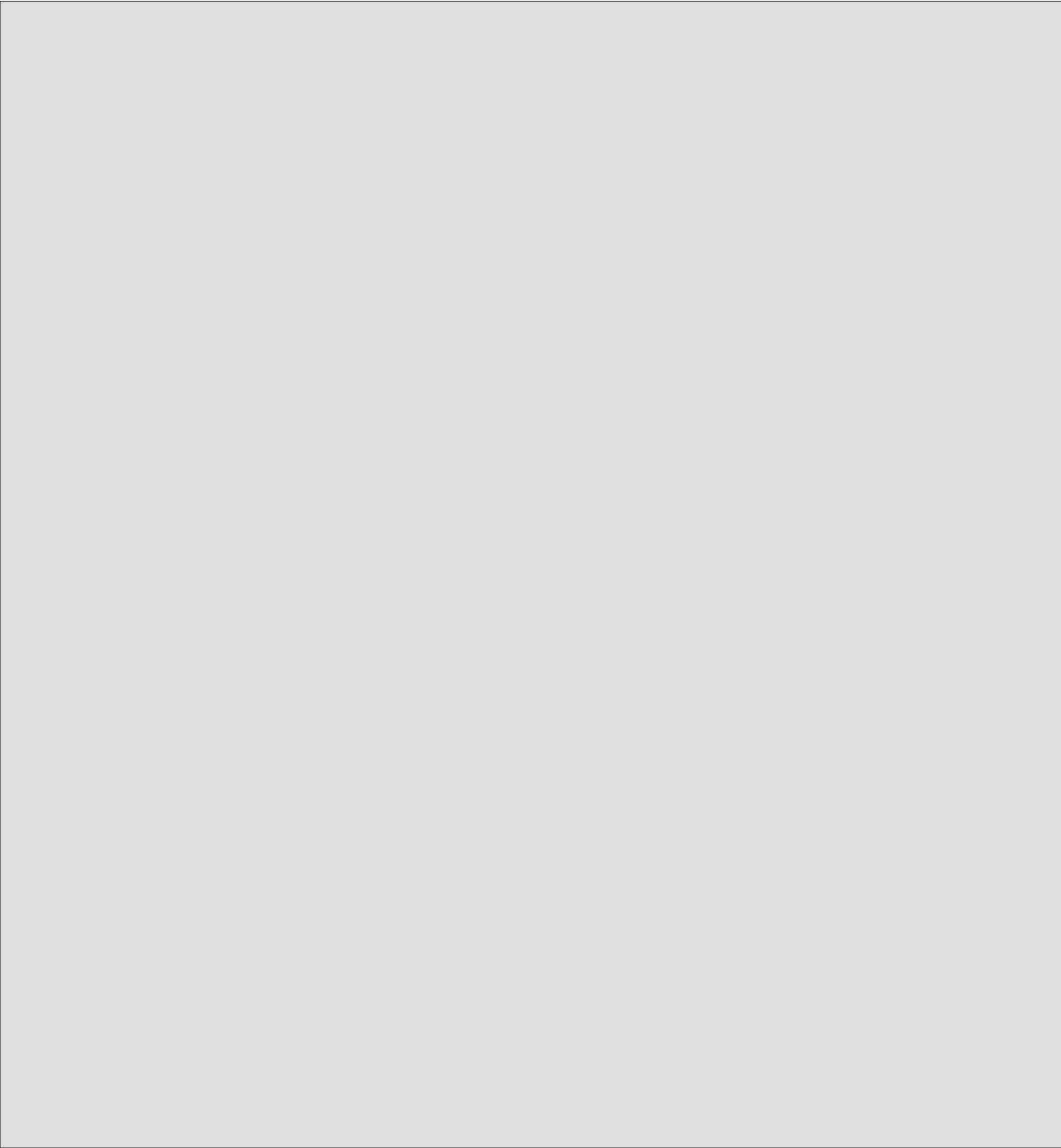


PELICAN REEF
ENLISTED CLUB

OCT. 13, 2001
6 P.M. SOCIAL
7 P.M. DINNER

DRESS: SEMI-
FORMAL/MESS
DRESS

PRICES (NON-CLUB
MEMBERS ADD \$3):
E1-E4 \$10; E5-
E6 \$14; E7-O3
\$20; O4 + \$24



The Gulf Guide

Your link to what's going on in the Tyndall community

This Week

Monday

Dental sick-call system

The dental clinic's walk-in sick-call system will change Monday to a scheduled-appointment sick-call system for active-duty members only. Active-duty patients requiring a dental sick-call appointment may call 283-7572. Appointments may also be made at the service desk at the dental clinic. Retirees and family members who wish to seek dental care will be seen on a standby basis or through their civilian provider. Retiree dental insurance plan information can be found on the Internet at: www.ddpdelta.org. Family member dental plan information can be obtained at: www.ucci.com.

Anger-management class

A three-session anger-management class will be 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 15 and 22 in the life skills support center, Building 1305. For more information, call family advocacy, 283-7272.

'Moms, Pops & Tots'

The parent and child interaction play group, "Moms, Pops & Tots," for parents and their under-age-five children meets on Mondays. For more information and meeting locations, call 286-5812.

Tuesday

Electrical outage

There will be a power outage from 9-11 a.m. Tuesday in the following areas: family housing on Dagger Drive and Star Circle and the youth center. The outage is necessary to allow the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron to make repairs to electrical power phasing. For more information, call the civil engineer squadron's customer service office, 283-4949.

Civil Air Patrol meeting

Civil Air Patrol meetings for boys and

girls 12 years old and older will be held 6-8:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Building 852. The CAP offers local and national activities with a focus on educational and professional development. For more information, call Capt. Laura Palm, 283-7594, or Master Sgt. Perry Newberry, 283-4189.

Boating skills course

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 19 boating skills and seamanship class will be 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The course runs through Oct. 9. There is no charge for the instruction, but a \$30 material charge is necessary for books. For more information, call 215-2025 or 769-1896.

Thursday

Air Commando Association reunion

The annual, four-day Air Commando Association reunion will be Thursday-Oct. 7 in Fort Walton Beach. For more information, call (850) 581-0099, e-mail: aircommando@aol.com or visit the association Web page: <http://home.earthlink.net/~aircommando1/> for more details.

Yard Sales

The following yard sale is scheduled for Saturday: 2872-A Sabre Drive. All yard sales are held between 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Classifieds

New, unopened Dell PIII computer, 1.0 GHz, 20 GHD, 128 R, 15-inch monitor, speakers, Ethernet card, \$800. For more information, call 286-5727 after 5 p.m..

Must sell, Dell Pentium laptop computer, 8X CD ROM, Windows 98, 3.5-inch floppy, 56K modem. Battery, electrical cords, 5 months warranty, Office 2000 installed. Asking \$400 OBO. Call 286-1308.

Notes

Guardians ad Litem training

The next training session for anyone interested in joining the Guardians ad Litem program will begin Oct. 15. Guardians ad Litem represent abandoned, abused and/or neglected children in court. For more information, call 747-5180.

Investigation of British car rental company

The British Ministry of Defense Police and AFOSI are currently conducting an investigation into a company that rents vehicles to U.S. and other authorized personnel in and around the RAF Lakenheath, Alconbury and Mildenhall areas within the United Kingdom. The allegations are that this company may have charged for damage to rental vehicles, which did not occur, and also that U.S. personnel may have been deceived into paying other fraudulent charges for vehicles. Those who have been defrauded may not know they paid unnecessary or unlawful fees. In order to establish if you have been subjected to the frauds committed by this company, please contact your local AFOSI unit so they may collect some information from you.

Hispanic heritage volunteers needed

The Hispanic Heritage committee is looking for volunteers to participate in activities during Hispanic Heritage month,

which runs through Oct. 15. The festivities are open to all military members, dependents and civilian personnel. For more information, call Airman 1st Class Viedelquina Hoyte, 283-2670.

Minnesota Air National Guard openings

Immediate Minnesota Air National Guard positions are available with the 148th Fighter Wing, Duluth, Minn. For more information, call Master Sgt. Frank Bucar Jr., DSN 825-7440, or call toll free, (800) 831-7027. Interested individuals may also call the military personnel flight customer service office, 283-3198.

FSU seeks outstanding alumni

Florida State University, Panama City campus is seeking nominations for FSU PC alumni to be honored as this year's Notable 'Noles. Selection criteria may include demonstration of excellence and dedication while attending FSU, contributions and involvement in the community and/or professional accomplishments after graduation. The three alumni selected will be recognized at the Annual Alumni Homecoming Luncheon Nov. 8 and the homecoming celebration Nov. 9. Nomination forms may be completed online at: www.pc.fsu.edu or by stopping by the FSU PC information desk. The deadline for nominations is Sept. 21. For more information, call Sarah Denman, 522-2035.

Retiree News

TRICARE For Life begins

TRICARE will become a second payer to Medicare starting Monday for eligible retirees and their spouses who are over 65 and enrolled in Medicare Part B. The only requirements for beneficiaries are that they check their enrollment information in the Defense Eligibility and Reporting System to ensure its accuracy and they be enrolled in Medicare Part B.

TRICARE's director of over-65 benefits, Steve Lillie, recommends that beneficiaries take advantage of the expanded TRICARE For Life call center at (888) 363-5433. This number can be used by beneficiaries to educate health-care providers who are unsure of the expanded

benefit. If necessary, TRICARE can set up a three-way call with the beneficiary, the doctor and the call center representative. Mr. Lillie wants beneficiaries to be aware that the program will begin on schedule even if Congress and the president do not pass a Fiscal 2002 Defense Appropriations Act by Monday.

Beneficiaries can also get more information on TRICARE For Life and on their DEERS enrollment status by visiting the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.

The Retired Officers' Association has made available on its Web site a handbook, TRICARE For Life Providers, which can be downloaded from www.troa.org/Legislative/HealthCare.TFLProvider.pdf.

Base Theater



Today: "American Pie 2" (R, strong sexual content, crude humor, language and drinking, 105 min.)

Saturday: "American Pie 2"

Sunday: "Princess Diaries" (G, 111 min.)

Thursday: "American Outlaws" (PG-13, western violence, 95 min.) All movies start at 7 p.m.

Air Force shows patriotism: displays American flag with pride

From guard shacks to elementary schools, Tyndall pledges allegiance to ‘Old Glory’

SENIOR AIRMAN RUSSELL CROWE
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

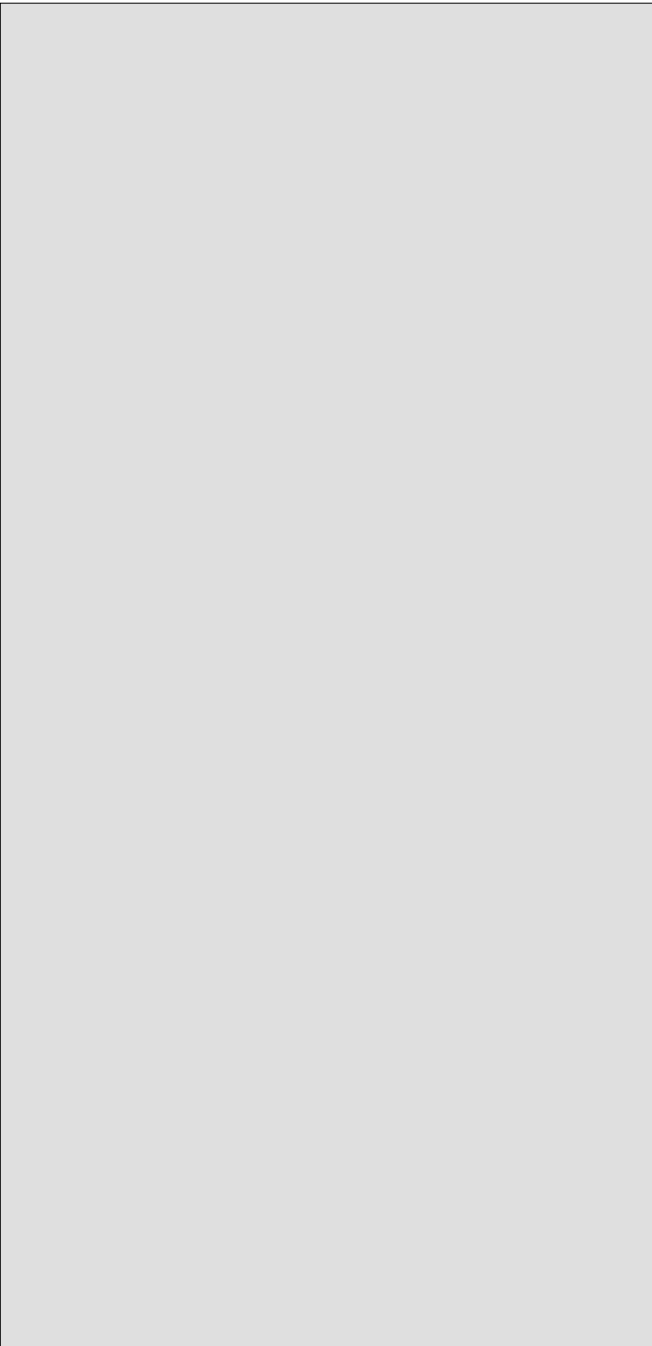
Since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States, a wave of patriotism has swept across the nation, prompting citizens of all colors, races and religions to display flags, sing patriotic tunes or enlist for military service. Here at Tyndall, despite longer work-hours, extra waiting time at gates and buildings and heightened security across the installation, troops and families are serious when it comes to showing their spirit

and support. The median of Highway 98 is sprinkled with flags, the fence around Tyndall Elementary School reads ‘God Bless the USA’ in red, white and blue tissue paper and flag park is, well, covered with Old Glory. Members of the security forces squadron have put flags at the main gates and near their posts, and countless vehicles are inundated with the stars and stripes. From flags painted on windows to mini-flags hanging from antennas, people are riding in style – patriotic style. But are they doing it respectfully? When it comes to displaying the U.S. flag, there are some strict rules and regulations. And while it’s important to show pride and support to the country, it’s also equally important to respect

the flag and not demean what it stands for — a mistake that can be made by people who, despite good intentions, are unaware of the proper use. Senior Airman Adam Sparks, assistant NCO in charge of the Tyndall Honor Guard, works with the flag on an almost daily basis. “The flag is the symbol of our national unity, our national endeavor and our national aspiration,” he said. “It means America first; it means an undivided allegiance. It means America united, strong and efficient, equal to her tasks.” According to Airman Sparks, the proper display is an extremely important part of using the flag. The following are guidelines from www.gruntsmilitary.com, and outline the proper use and display of the American flag.



Jarrod Needle
Staff Sgt. Sean Coleman, McGuire Air Force Base, paints the flag on his car.



Displaying the flag outdoors	Displaying the flag indoors
<p>☆ On a vehicle Attach the flag to the antenna or clamp the flagstaff to the right fender. Do not lay the flag over the vehicle.</p> <p>☆ On a building Hang the flag on a staff or on a rope over the sidewalk with the stars away from the building.</p> <p>☆ In a window Hang the flag vertically with the stars to the left of anyone looking from the street.</p> <p>☆ Half-staff This is a sign of mourning. Raise the flag to the top of the pole then lower it to the half-way point. Before lowering the flag, raise it to the top again at the end of the day.</p> <p>☆ With other flags Hang the flag above any other flag on the same pole - hoist first, lower last.</p>	<p>☆ Multiple staffs If you display the flag on a staff with other flags around it, place the flag at the center and highest point. Crossed staffs - Keep the flagstaff higher and on its own right.</p> <p>☆ Behind a speaker Hang the flag flat on the wall. Do not decorate the podium or table with the flag. Use bunting for decoration.</p> <p>☆ Next to a speaker Place the flag in a stand on the speaker’s right. Use the same placement for a religious service.</p> <p>☆ In a hall or lobby Hang the flag vertically across from the main entrance with the stars to the left of anyone coming through the door.</p> <p>☆ On a casket Drape the flag with its canton at the head and over the left shoulder of the body. Do not lower the flag into the grave.</p>





Name This Page

Win a Panasonic Cordless Phone!

Here's
How

Submit your suggestion by Sept. 28 to: fax - 283-8132
email - peggy.geil@tyndall.af.mil, or mail - 325 SVS/SVK Stop 31
113 Suwannee Ave
TAFB, FL 32403-5717

Include name and phone number.
Must be Tyndall AFB personnel age 18 or older.

September 28, 2001

This page is produced by the 325th Services Marketing office, 283-4565.

Tyndall Youth Center • Fifth Annual

Fall Festival

Games, food & lots of fun for the entire family!
October 26 • 6-8 p.m.

Register to win **Jacksonville Jaguars** tickets,
autographed footballs & helmets

No federal endorsement
of sponsors intended.

Sponsored in part by: Blockbuster, First Command Financial Planning, Haribo, Jacksonville Jaguars, Klutz,
Oriental Trading Company, Mrs. Grossman's Paper Co. Milmark Sales



Youth Center

☎ 283-4366

Tennis 1-2-3

Learn the basics in a group environment.
Program starts Oct. 13 open to ages 6
and up. Cost is \$30 for members, and
\$35 non-members, and includes T-shirt.
Call for more information.

Start Smart Soccer

Open to youth ages 3-5 years.
Parents participate one-on-one with their
child teaching basic soccer skills.
Program begins Oct. 27 at 8 a.m. Cost
is \$25. Call Andy for more information.

Youth Archery

Are you ready to learn about archery?
Sign up for "Kids on Target" archery.
Open to ages 10-16 yrs. Program runs
Oct. 26, Nov. 2, 9, and 16 at 3:30 p.m.
Cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for
nonmembers. Call Andy for details.

Punt, Pass & Kick

The NFL Gatorade Punt, Pass & Kick
competition is rescheduled for 4 p.m.,
Oct. 17. Open to youth ages 8-15 yrs.
Top finishers will advance to sectional
competition in Crawfordville, FL. For
details call Bruce.

Graphic Impressions

☎ 283-2228

Business Cards

Your photos or color logos can be
included on our Full Color cards for just
\$20 per 200.

Color Copies Special

Every Friday 8 1/2" x 11" color copies
are just 65¢ each.

Community Center

☎ 283-2495

Pig Skin Picks

Brad Harris and Eric Appletoft are tied
at week three with 21 correct picks.

New Lodging Rates

Effective October 1 the AETC lodging
rates will be as follows: \$21.50 for
VOQs; and \$30.50 for large
distinguished VOQs. The TLF rate will
remain \$27.50.

Bowling Center

☎ 283-2380

Snack Bar Specials

■ Bar-B-Q Beef or Chicken Sandwich
with a choice of potato salad or cole
slaw and a drink for just \$2.85.

■ Bacon Cheeseburger, Fries and
Drink \$3.50

Vet Clinic

☎ 283-2434

Special Hours

The vet clinic will be closed on Friday,
Oct. 5 and Monday Oct. 8.

Retiree Appreciation

Mon., Oct. 15. Retirees, make your pet's
appointments for this day and save 20%.

Aero Club Flight Training Center

Private Pilot Ground School
October 10

Commercial Instrument
October 11

Call 283-4404
for more information

Skills Development Ctr.

☎ 283-4511

Important Announcement

The deadline for the 2001 Artist
Craftsman Contest & Photo Contest
has been extended to October 5. Call
for details.

Air Force Clubs The 2001 Ultimate Membership Drive

**10 Air Force winners get
their choice of a Ford
Ranger, Chevy Cavalier,
Dodge Neon or \$8,500!**

Signup by November 18 to be eligible for
the drawing. Current members are already
entered to win! Bring in a new member and
receive a coupon for \$10 towards dinner.

E Club: 283-4357 • O Club: 283-4146

Sponsored in part by:



2nd Annual

Car Show

October 7, 2001 \$10 per entry
Preregistration Sept. 15 - Oct. 3

- Prizes
- DJ Rockin' Rob
- Photographs
- Food & Beverages
- Kids Activities



8 Award Classes:

Class Trophies - 1st-3rd Place

- Pre '54
- 1955-1964
- 1965-1974
- 1975-1984
- 1985-1994
- 1995-present
- Custom
- In service Law Enforcement

5 Local Trophies:

- Commander's Choice
- People's Choice
- Ladies' Choice
- Club Participation
- Tyndall's Best

For information call Gary at 763-1695 or 774-1754 or call the E Club at 283-4146

Sponsored in part by:

Enterprise Rent-A-Car
The Paddock
Parkway Tire & Service
First Command Financial Planning
Custom Glass Tinting of Callaway

No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

The Shoppe
Dura Lube
Auto Zone
sparkleauto.com
DJ Rockin' Rob
Beach 99.3
Mothers

Applebee's
Big 10 Tires
Wiggins Auto Parts
Discount Auto Parts
Advance Auto Parts
Bubbles Car Wash
Larry's Real Pit BBQ



Hey Football Fans, here's...

3 Ways to Win with Services

■ Football Quest at the Pizza Pub

- Win a trip to the AF vs Army football game Nov. 3

*Sponsored in part by 3M Corp., Hilton Garden Inn Hotel in Colorado Springs,
USAA, & Dollar Rent A Car

■ Pigskin Picks at the CAC

- Play for your chance to win Jacksonville Jaguars tickets
& autographed merchandise.

*Sponsored in part by: Jacksonville Jaguars & Panasonic

■ Football Frenzy in the Pizza Pub

- AF Club Members could win a trip to an NFL game, the Super Bowl,
the Pro Bowl, or a trip for four to Disney World or Disneyland.

*Sponsored in part by: Miller Brewing Co., American Airlines, Destination Arlington & Double Tree Alana Waikiki

*No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

Pizza Pub • 283-3222 CAC • 283-2495



In Brief

Free Florida State football tickets



Military personnel will need to present their military identification card at the Florida State main ticket window beginning at 3 p.m. on Friday to receive two complementary tickets to the game. If more tickets are needed, they will be made available for purchase and all seats will be allocated together. For further information, call Scott McLaren, assistant ticket manager, (850)644-8084.

VolksSport Club 5/10K walk

The Panama City VolksSport Club's 5/10K walk will be Oct. 13 at Pine Log State Forest off Highway 79, north of Panama City Beach. The walk can be started any time between 8 a.m. and noon but must be completed by 3 p.m. 5K walks are the equivalent of walking 3.1 miles and are held on park trails. This event is in conjunction with Florida's Greenways and Trails Month, encouraging all those in Florida to hike a trail during the month. Walks are free to those not desiring credit and \$2 for those desiring IVV/AVA credit. Grilled sausages, salad, dessert and soda will also be available for \$5. For more information, call DJ Moore, 871-2624, or Caroline Bagley, 234-5792.

Little golfer stands up to competition

SENIOR AIRMAN CHUCK WALKER
1st Communications Squadron

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. — Move over, Tiger Woods. A boy here is poised to give Woods all the competition he can take. Not yet, though — he is only 8 years old.

"I want to beat all of Tiger Woods' records and Jack Nicklaus' records," said Trey Valentine, a young golf prodigy. "When I watch a golf tournament, I watch Tiger's game and his swing and try to learn from him."

Trey started playing at the age of 2, and played his first round of golf when he was 3 years old.

He has already had a lot of success in the game as well. He has won six of the 12 tournaments he has played this year.

"When Trey was young he just took to golf," said Staff Sgt. Fletcher Valentine, his father and the non-commissioned officer in charge of war reserve material for the 1st Medical Group at Langley Air Force Base, Va. "When he was (3 years old), I got him a cut-down set of

clubs and he played his first round. It's just something he loves to do."

Trey was 5 years old when he finished second out of 58 golfers in his first tournament.

Valentine wants to emphasize that this is not his passion or his love, but his son's.

"He really enjoys playing and working on his game," Valentine said. "I don't push him, I just allow him to pursue what he wants. He says he wants to be the best in the world. He wants to beat everybody."

Trey accomplished one feat this summer that may have all weekend golfers green with envy. He broke 80, scoring a winning 79 in the Norfolk, Va., Junior Amateur Golf Tournament.

"I always try to shoot lower than I ever have before," Trey said. "I work on my balance, my swing and my short game."

Trey works under the tutelage of Hugh Hamilton, a golf pro at the base's Eaglewood Golf Course.

"He really mentors Trey and helps

him out a lot," Valentine said. "Hugh teaches him how to hit different shots and teaches him how to hit the more difficult shots."

Trey's early start leads to inevitable comparisons to Tiger Woods; however, Trey wants his own identity.

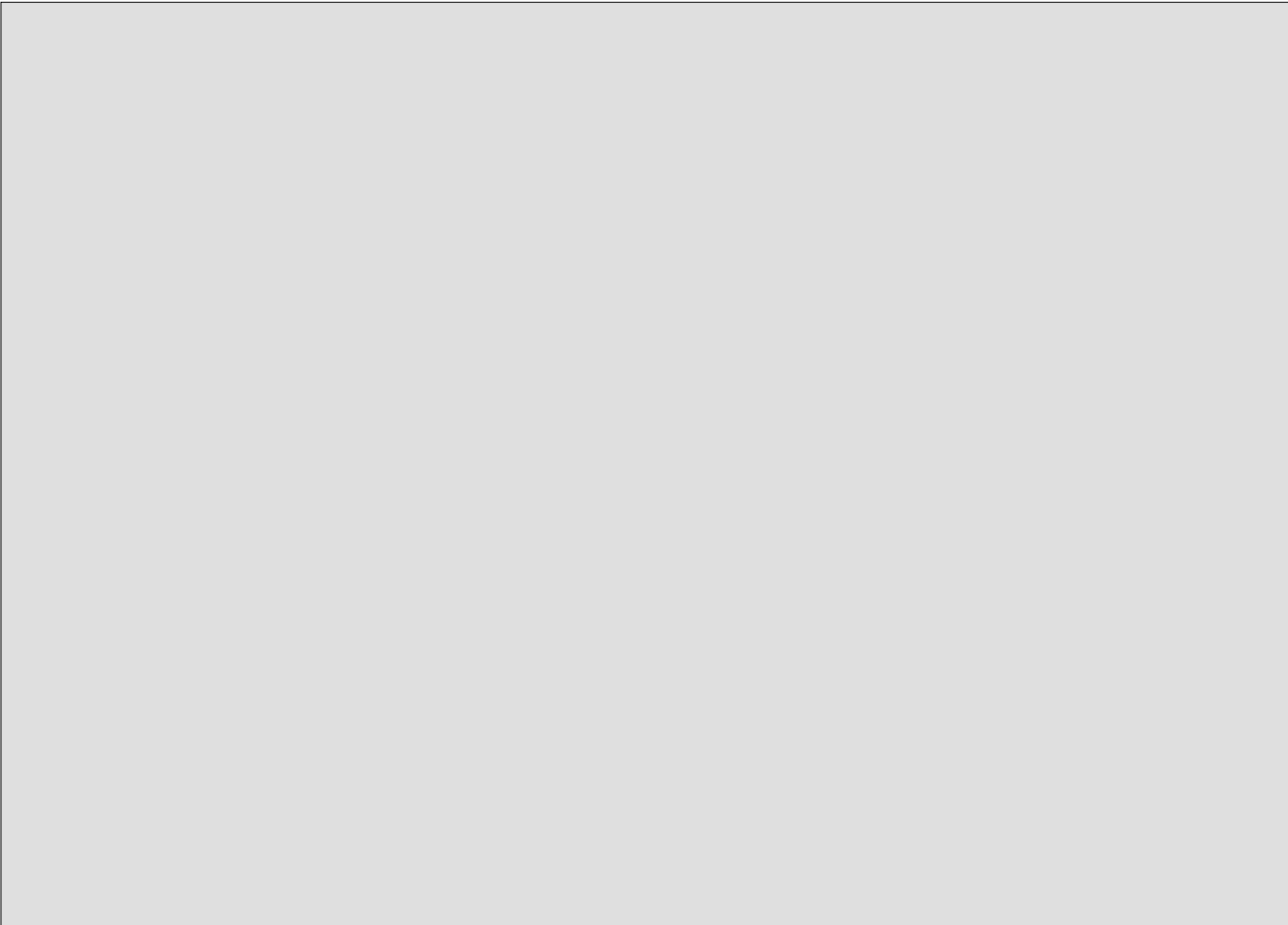
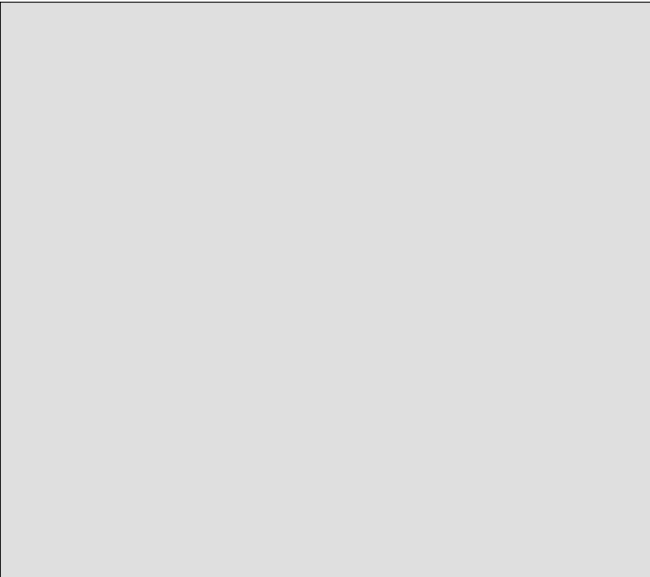
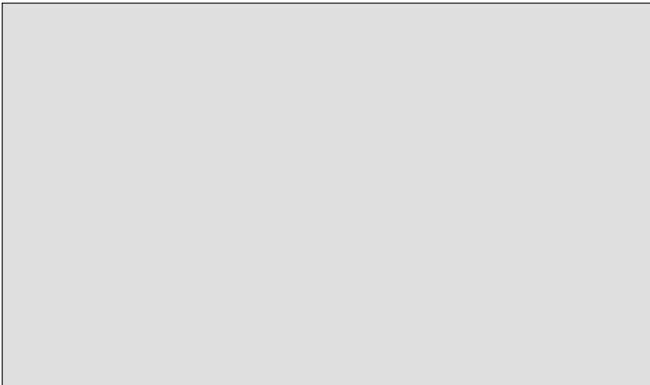
"He also wants to be his own man," Valentine said. "He looks at Tiger as potential competition."

Valentine said he is no competition for his son. His son consistently beats him, with Valentine only able to stay with him for about six holes.

With all the things Trey has accomplished at such a young age, it is no wonder that Valentine feels his son's future is bright.

"I am so proud of him," he said. "When I look at him, I just see the talent and the potential that's there."

"It's just fun," Trey said. "It's hard to get the ball in the hole. I see this as something I want to do for the rest of my life. I want to be a good golfer. I want to be the best."



Thinking
about
getting
out?
Think
again!



Get the
facts
first.

Call Chief
Master Sgt.
Ron Georgia,
325th
Fighter
Wing career
assistance
adviser at
283-2222.

